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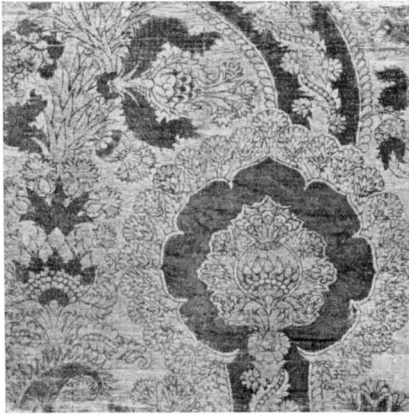
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(3) VELVET

XV CENTURY

Figure (3) is a late fifteenth century variation of the pomegranate motif, in which the fruit grows from a broad wavy band. This pattern, though very large and elaborate, was used for garments as well as for wall hangings. Like other early patterns, it is frequently shown in contemporary paintings, as, for instance, in *The Arrival of Francesco Gonzaga*, by Andrea Mantegna (1431-1506).

Figure (2) is a velvet brocade with light green pile on a buff satiny ground originally filled with silver threads. It is probably a sixteenth century example, woven in Venice; and shows such strong Oriental influence as to give some ground for believing that it was copied almost directly from an Eastern pattern. Algood illustrates two analogous designs in the *Musee des Arts Decoratifs* which are attributed to Oriental weavers of the sixteenth century. They differ principally from our examples in a certain rotundity of leaf and fruit forms.

Figure (4) is a sixteenth century Persian velvet recently exhibited at the Museum. It has a repeated pattern of flowering plants and of cloud



(4) PERSIAN VELVET

forms, in colored velvet outlined in black, on a yellow ground.

In the Egyptian Rooms, among the fragments of Coptic textiles, are several specimens of primitive velvets, dating from the first to the fifth century. Some have long, uncut linen pile and others a shorter pile in dark colored wool.

#### COMING EXHIBITIONS

February: Exhibition of Paintings by Jean Julien Lemordant.

February 15 to March 31: Exhibition of Paintings by Stephen Haweis.

April 1 to 15: Exhibition of Stage Models and of Sketches for Stage Settings, lent by the Bourgeois Galleries, New York.

April 15 to May 31: Exhibition of Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture

*Bulletin of the City Art Museum of St. Louis*

by the following American Artists: Paul Bartlett, Gifford Beal, A. Stirling Calder, George Bellows, Paul Dougherty, John Flanagan, William Glackens, Walter Griffin, Childe Hassam, Robert Henri, Jonas Lie, Joseph Pennell and Eugene Speicher.

July 1 to August 15: Exhibition of Paintings by W. Elmer Schofield.

September and October: Fifteenth Annual Exhibition of Paintings by American Artists.

November 15 to December 31: Exhibition of Paintings in Oil and Tempera, by Henry G. Keller.

A BYZANTINE STOLE

A RECENTLY acquired Byzantine stole (circa XVI century) is of considerable interest as a type of the embroidered vestment used in the Greek Church. It is worked in colored silk with outlines in gold thread, on a green silk background. On the right side is shown the Virgin Mary and St. John Chrysostom, and on the left, the Angel Gabriel and St. Basil. Alternating with these single figures are six identical scenes of the Crucifixion. The ends of the stole are ornamented with conventional flowers and with silk tassels, the latter a restoration. At the neck are angels adoring a central figure. The saints and angels are of the conventionalized types characteristic of Byzantine art. There are similar figures of both St. Basil and St. John in the decorations of the monasteries of St. Luke of Stiris in Phocis and at Mount Athos.

The two saints are vested for the holy liturgy of the Greek Church. They wear the sticharion (alb); stole; liturgical cuffs; hypogonation, a lozenge-shaped piece of stuff hanging at the right side; sakkos (dalmatic); pallium and mitre. The

